

winning ways

Winter 2015, VOLUME 24, ISSUE 1
WOMEN IN NUMISMATICS

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President's Letter

By Charmy Harker

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s I write my third President's letter, I recognize that this is the time of year when many of us will reflect on where we are at, personally and professionally. As President of WIN, I am very pleased to see that we continue to move forward with our goals, including increasing our membership to almost 150 members. But as I mentioned in my last letter, anything we achieve as a club is due to our tireless WIN board members who graciously and happily work hard on behalf of WIN. They are the heart and soul of WIN and I am so proud to serve with them.

We had a very productive board meeting during the Chicago ANA World's Fair of Money in August, and a very interesting and informative general meeting, with our own Kathy Freeland giving a superb

presentation on her new book on American Red Cross (ARC) collectibles.

Following are some of the WIN happenings since my last letter:

We have a new webmaster – Jim Motley. Our huge thanks to our prior webmaster, Maureen, for all her dedication and service to WIN. Being webmaster is a difficult and time-consuming job, and we are very grateful to Maureen, and now to Jim!

Our ANA Summer Seminar raffle fundraiser raised \$1,384 and both of the two 25/25 winners, Rick Sear and Larry Hair, donated their winnings back to WIN!

WIN members are assisting Ron Guth with his Whitman book, "100 Greatest Women On Coins," by helping to choose the top 100 as well as the top 20 women from a long list of "real" women, goddesses, allegorical figures that have appeared on coins.

Prue Fitts received WIN's Gloria Peters Literary Award for her article, "Let's Hear

It For the Ladies." And on that note, WIN is always looking for interesting articles to publish in Winning Ways. And don't forget, any article you submit could be eligible for next year's Gloria Peters Literary Award!

Our Facebook page and social mixers continue to be popular and successful.

WIN still has a lot of things we would like to improve on and achieve, but they will come in time. I look forward to being part of what lies ahead for WIN, starting with our next meeting at the January FUN show. Until then, I wish each and every one of you a wonderful holiday and a successful and prosperous New Year.



WIN Meeting at FUN

WIN Press Release

W

omen In Numismatics to host general membership meeting at FUN!

On Saturday, January 10th, 2015, Women in Numismatics is pleased to announce

that they will be hosting their first general membership meeting of 2015 at the FUN Show with a presentation by Dave Frank of Missouri.

The meeting and Mr. Frank's presentation will be held on Saturday, January 10th from 9–10 a.m. in room W224B of the Orange County Convention Center 9800 International Drive, Hall WD Orlando, Florida 32819.

Mr. Frank will be giving a PowerPoint presentation called "Women on Numismatics", depicting coins, paper money and possibly tokens from the United States and around the world that feature notable women! Plan to attend and bring a guest!

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WIN Contacts

Organization Mailing Address:

Cindy Wibker, Secretary
 PO Box 41747

Lake Monroe, FL 32747-1147

www.womeninnumismatics.com/contact-us/

Winning Ways Mailing Address:

Dave Heinrich
 PO Box 446

Miamitown, OH 45041

Email :

winningwayseditor@gmail.com

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Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the Editor are welcome from both members and non-members and must include your name, address and phone number. Letters will be published in *Winning Ways* as space and publication deadlines permit and are subject to editorial discretion. Whenever a letter addresses a specific problem that the Board can assist in resolving, it will be forwarded to the appropriate people.

Feature Articles

Articles, photos and features pertaining to the numismatic industry are welcome and are subject to editorial and editing.

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Deadlines

All content or advertisements submitted for use in *Winning Ways* should be received by the following deadlines for each issue:

April Issue *February 15th*

August Issue *June 15th*

January Issue *November 15th*

Stay Updated! Visit the WIN website at

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The Philadelphia Mint: An Update

By Kari S Brower and Bill Smith

S

ince 1976, I have taken numerous memorable trips to the Philadelphia mint. Many of them have been V.I.P. tours, but this time Bill Smith and I are writing an update. The answers to our questions have been provided to us by the courtesy of Jana Prewitt, public affairs specialist of the United States Mint headquarters; Washington D.C.

Who is the current chief engraver? According to computer research done by Bill Smith, the U.S. Mint has not had a chief engraver since John Mercanti's retirement in 2010.

What is the Philadelphia Mint's hours of operation? The Philadelphia Mint operates two-ten hour shifts.

Philadelphia Mint tours: General tour hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Closed federal holidays except as noted below. Summer tour hours: Monday through Saturday, Memorial day through Labor day, 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Memorial day and Labor day: Saturday, Sunday and Monday, weekends, 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. July 4: 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

What is the most minted denomination at the Philadelphia Mint? By far, it is the one cent coin.

How many cents, nickels, dimes, etc. are produced per second, minute, hour, day?

It varies. The Philadelphia Mint is capable of producing 30 million coins in a half hour. Each coining press can produce 750 coins per minute. The United States Mint at Philadelphia has the capacity to produce 50 million coins each day. The number of coins produced at any given time depends on the demand and scheduling at the time of production. The Schuler presses are monitored by the press operators to run at the rate of 750 coins per minute.



Philadelphia Mint

So far this year, here are the production totals for Philadelphia: 1 cent-1702.40 million, five cents-262.5 million, 10 cents-508.00 million, twenty-five cents-348.80 million, 50 cents-2.50 million, native American 1 dollar coin-3.08 million, president 1 dollar coin-19.88 million. Total amounts minted so far-2847.22 million.

How many sculptor/engravers are on staff at the mint? Currently there are seven full-time sculptor/engravers at the mint. There are also 19 artists who work under contract in the artistic infusion program. The contractors are chosen to work closely with the sculptor/engravers to create and submit designs for new U.S. coins and medals.

How many people are employed at the mint? Approximately 2800 people work at all six mint facilities. Approximately 450 people are employed in Philadelphia.

Does the Mason Jar Company still provide the cent planchets? The cent planchets are provided by Jarden Zinc Products of Greenville, Tennessee. Jarden is the successor to Alltrista Zinc Products Company, which spun off in 1993 from the Ball Corporation, makers of the zinc lids for Ball Mason jars.

What type of coin presses are used and how many? The U.S. mint has switched over the last 20 years from presses manufactured by the E. W. Bliss company to horizontal-strike presses made by Schuler ag, a German manufacturer. There are nine production lines with seven coining presses in each line, for a total of 63 presses. There are also three stand-alone coin presses.

Is the micrometer still used to make dies? Yes, micrometers are still used to measure coins and other numismatic related items. Mikron cn 6 milling machines are used to cut hubs and dies. It generally takes 15-20 hours to cut a coin hub and 25-30 hours to cut a 3-inch die. These cnc machines are more efficient and can produce a better quality product than the retired Janvier transfer engraving machines.

In conclusion, if you would like more information on the Philadelphia Mint either take the tour or go online at www.usmint.gov. I would like to thank Bill Smith and Jana Prewitt with help on this article.

Smoky Mountain Quarter Debut Amid Major Snow Storm

By Gayle K. Pike



live in Memphis, Tennessee.

The first of the National Park Quarters to be issued was Hot Spring National Park in 2010. Since it was to be the first and less than 200 miles from Memphis, I decided it would be a unique once in a lifetime experience. I decided to go, along with the person that worked for me at the time. It was a really fun and enjoyable event.

A year later (2011) the 4th quarter for that year was Mississippi and the Vicksburg National Battlefield Park. We decided to go to that ceremony and were excited to be attending a second ceremony. This one was different from the first and far more impressive as it took place in front of the restored wreckage of the Cairo, the ship that was pictured on the quarter.

They say the third time is the charm and in January of 2014 I got to attend the ceremony for Tennessee, my home state. The quarter will honor the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the area is one of my favorites.

I love snow and the Smoky Mountains in winter are beautiful. My friend Marilyn from Atlanta that has worked for me at several coin shows in the last year is going. I thought she would enjoy seeing one of the quarter ceremonies. After the quarter ceremony they have a quarter exchange and you can buy up to \$100 per person in the new quarters. I must admit I wanted an extra person to get an additional \$100 in quarters. So does everyone else, as I see people that bring small children and get

\$100 in quarters for each child.

I drove to Atlanta and Marilyn is going to drive to Gatlinburg where the quarter ceremony is being held at the Mills Auditorium of the Gatlinburg Convention Center. We left about 9AM amidst all kinds of horror reports about the weather. They were right. I tried to call the Smoky Mountain Visitor Center to check the conditions before we left and could only get recordings which were of no help. It is shorter and more scenic to go across the mountains but not knowing if the road through the park was open we chose to go up to Knoxville and down to Gatlinburg. A wise choice since we later heard the road through the mountain was indeed closed.

It started snowing about 10:15. It was coming down hard and blowing across the road and we were still in Georgia. We planned to stop at a local restaurant in Ringgold called Aunt Effie's. It was almost a white out when we got off at the exit. We quickly downed meatloaf and fresh vegetables while listening to the weather report on the TV and then continued. I was really worried about how much further we would get before the weather put a halt to the trip.

It was bumper to bumper to the Tennessee State Line. It did not look like ice on the road but when Marilyn had to brake we began to skid. For a woman from Georgia who rarely drives on ice, she did one heck of a job keeping us from a wreck, unlike others we saw previously crashed on the side of the road. About 42 miles from Knoxville, the road seems to clear up a bit. We pass over a river, and snow and ice are on each bank and it is a beautiful sight.

We stop in Knoxville to clean the windows. We pass a favorite restaurant, Puleo's but are still full from Aunt Effie's so we put that on the agenda for the return trip. Since Marilyn does not live in an area of frequent cold she does not have wiper fluid with anti freeze and it is frozen. We have to stop again to clean the window. We are close, only about 30 miles from Gatlinburg, but the snow is really coming down.

The roads are pretty bad as we come into Gatlinburg but the snow on the trees and river is beautiful. I had not been to Gatlinburg in 20 or more years but it had changed very little. We made our way down the main street to our hotel. We noticed that due to the weather there were no stores and few restaurants open. We then decided to go to the park visitor center to check on the exact location for the quarter ceremony. As we reached the entrance to the park the road was quite covered with snow and ice. Afraid to continue further, Marilyn pulled over to turn around and a snow plough almost ran us over!! We decided to search for the convention center on our own. We found it and right next to it was the Bubba Gump Seafood House and it was open. We decided that was a good place for supper since neither of us had eaten at one. This one proved quite interesting with good atmosphere and good food. The crab stuffed shrimp was excellent. We were seated right on the road next to the flashing observation tower and could see the snow falling. With supper finished we headed back to the hotel. Our room overlooks the OberGatlinburg Tram and we watched it lift off several times.

January 29th the day of the ceremony, is a

cold morning. As we head out the car is covered in snow and has to be cleaned before we head to the ceremony. As we check out I comment about the snow and the desk clerk informs me this is the biggest snow Gatlinburg has had in 5 years.

The ceremony starts at 10 AM and I want to arrive an hour early to make sure we get a good seat. We stop at Pancake Pantry for some quick breakfast and are seated right up front with a great view of the sun shining on the snow covered mountains. We are talking to a couple from Chattanooga that have driven over for the ceremony. When we arrive at the conven-

tion center there is no place to park. All the parking lots are buried in snow! We are informed the ceremony has been delayed till 11 AM. We drive around looking for parking and all the lots are snow covered. About a dozen or so cars are also looking for parking and we stop and chat with several. We are then informed by a Park Ranger that the ceremony has now been postponed till 11:30. I ask if that is to allow dignitaries or people to arrive. He says is it so more people can get to the ceremony. We finally see people parking on the street in front of the convention center and decide to follow their lead. We get out and race inside before someone tells us we can't park there!!! If we get a ticket it will be better than walking a mile in the snow!!! Finally some brave soul dares to enter the snow covered parking lot and others then follow.

There are two stone fireplaces in the lobby

and each has a roaring fire. There are about a dozen people sitting around chatting about the ceremony. I am called the old veteran because this is my third ceremony. I put out flyers for the TSNS Spring show on the tables around the fire. I see

to do the Color Presentation and Pledge of Allegiance could not get to the ceremony. He asks us to rise and face the flag for the Pledge of Allegiance. He then introduces some dignitaries including the Mayor of Sevier County, City Manager of

Gatlinburg, the current and past Directors of the Park and the CEO of the Citizens National Bank which is doing the quarter exchange. A representative of Governor Haslam read a proclamation from him.

Kent Cave, a Park Ranger, explained that there are 100 historical structures of Southern Appalachian Mountain Architecture in the park. A slide presentation of them has been playing off to the right of the stage for the last hour.



A plaque of the first struck quarter was presented to Pedro Ramos the Park Superintendent.

several people pick one up .

The room for the ceremony is quite spacious but the trappings for the ceremony are rather bland. At 10:45 there are about 30 people with maybe 8 children. Music is provided by Boogertown Gap. There are 4 people, a guitar, banjo, fiddle and a wash board type of instrument. They both play and sing as people enter the room. Many take pictures in front of the stage. The room is filling up and as the time for the ceremony approaches all the speakers and special guests disappear into the hall for probably last minute instructions. A chair is added to the stage for a speaker who has apparently arrived. A local news crew sets up. As the ceremony starts there are approximately 125 people in the room.

J. Adams, a local radio host, is the Master of Ceremonies. He apologizes that the school children and scout troops that were

He also told us the ceremonial quarter pour was to be in an old wooden dough bowl. Dough bowls were used in the



Pedro Ramos the Park Superintendent with a handful of quarters

mountains to mix and store dough. They are usually carved from a single piece of Buckeye wood because it did not crack.

We were also reminded of the sacrifices of the people that lived on the land that is now the Great Smoky Mountains Park.

Another ranger (whose name I missed) told us about coins in the Smoky Mountains. He spoke of the log companies in the 1920's and how they paid in tokens called script that had to be used in the company store. He then said there would be an additional program about Smoky Mountain money at the park visitor center at 1:30 and again at 2:30.

Associate Director of Manufacturing at the US Mint, David Croft, talked about the elements of the quarter design. There is a log cabin, split rail fence, lush forest and a hawk in the sky. He said the mint worked with the park to choose elements of the cultural heritage of the area.

A plaque of the first struck quarter was presented to Pedro Ramos the Park Superintendent. And then he and David Croft did the symbolic quarter pour. Each poured a bag of the quarters (one bag P mint and one bag D mint) into the bowl.

Kids in attendance were asked to come up to the front and each received a free Smoky Mountain quarter. It was announced that two places had been set up in the lobby for the quarter exchange and that each person could buy up to \$100 in quarters. We were all off to get our quarters. The tellers from the Citizens National Bank had 10 rolls in cute little bags ready to give people. A very unique idea. Marilyn and I each got 10 rolls. She took some to

the car and I got in line at the second place to get more. We left with a total of 60 rolls. Many left with \$500 boxes due to the fact that most people never made it to the ceremony and there were plenty.

We left and headed back toward Knox-

normally which was a good thing since we were trying to get to my favorite S & S Cafeteria for lunch before I headed back to Memphis. Thankfully we made it.

Sad to say, I did not expect a lot from the ceremony as I had been to the Tennessee

State Quarter Ceremony in Nashville in 2002. Tennessee does not seem to know how to do things with a flair. They could really take some lessons from the Vicksburg and Hot Springs ceremony. Both were a lot more impressive and flashy than Tennessee.

However the weather will put the release of the Smoky Mountain Quarter down as a very memora-

ble event and one I was extremely thankful to make it to!!!

I have been fortunate to attend 3 ceremonies now and am looking forward to 2016 when the second quarter for that year will be Kentucky and Cumberland Gap National Historic Park. My mother was born in Kentucky and my dad while born in Tennessee grew up in Kentucky. As a child there were lots of trips to Kentucky and it is a state I love so I am anxiously awaiting the Kentucky issue.

I strongly suggest if you have a chance to attend a quarter ceremony, don't think twice, just make plans to go. You will be so glad that you did. Each quarter ceremony is a once in a lifetime event. You can be a part of history and have a great time to boot.



Kids in attendance were asked to come up to the front and each received a free Smoky Mountain quarter.

ville. We stopped at some antique malls on the way and stopped at La Carreta, a Mexican Restaurant for lunch. Then as we were going down the road I spotted my friend, George Decker's Coin Shop. We turned around and went back for a visit. It was good to see him and Karen Denton, who works for him. We then headed to Knoxville where we were spending the night and going to one of my favorite restaurants, Puleo's for dinner. We had prime rib and scallops and it was delicious, as everything from Puleo's is.

The drive back to Atlanta the next morning went well until Acworth, Georgia when the GPS (fondly named Bertha) kept saying "severe traffic ahead" but we saw none. About 20 minutes later we saw the wall to wall traffic. We never quite figured out what caused it as the snow was gone but in about five miles we started moving

Interview with Shellee Graham

Numismatic Photographer and Artist

Q

: How did you become involved in numismatics?

A: After a career of other creative jobs

part was learning how to light the coins, most of which have subtle but important differences, whether they are old, new, proofs, etc. You can't spend an excessive amount of time on each one. You have to build speed without sacrificing quality, and you have to edit quickly also. Our company is a high volume operation, and the products need to be processed for the website in a timely man-

do. It is such a privilege to spend every day working with an endless variety of currency, from newly minted gold bars to commemoratives to ancients.

Q: Do you take all of the photographs for APMEX?

A: We have two photographers and one editing specialist. I shoot most of the website photographs



Big Money series #15 © Shellee Graham
Electricity Presenting Light to the World
26" x 48" print on canvas

as a fashion illustrator, graphic designer, and product photographer, I moved from St. Louis, Missouri to Oklahoma, and found a position as a numismatic photographer for APMEX. At the time I didn't know the meaning of the word "numismatic." Ha! The most difficult

ner.

Q: How long have you worked for APMEX?

A: Five and a half years. It's a great company with wonderful people and superb management. I truly love what I

for Apmex.com and also assist with editing when needed. I work special customer requests and other special projects from time to time, also.

Q: I understand you have created a series of fine artwork with a numismatic

theme as a personal endeavor.

A: That's right, I call the series "Big Money." Over the past four years I have designed more than forty pieces, all printed on canvas, and of varying sizes, from 12" square to more than 48" wide. It was an idea that developed as I photographed & edited coins. My educational background is in art. I have two degrees, one in drawing and one in graphic design. It was just a matter of time before currency became the focus of my art.

Q: Tell us about "Big Money." How do you decide on subjects and how does it all come together?

A: At first I was overwhelmed with ideas, having handled so many different coins as well as paper currency. Those designed in the 19th and early 20th centuries were true works of art, and that was a primary inspiration. That and the designers of the coins and bills. Outside of collectors, most people today have never seen these beautiful creations, and one of my goals is to get them some exposure. Most of my art includes graphically enhanced depictions of a coin, a collection of coins (such as pre-1933 gold, for instance), or a paper bill. I often include images of designers

or develop a "theme." For example, I have a piece called "Indian Head Penny Song," which contains a group of Indian Head pennies and includes song lyrics

A: I have done a number of commissions, most notably a canvas featuring the "Missouri Cabinet," a rare half cent collection that was recently auctioned.

That piece was for the owner of the collection and for others who worked to create the auction catalog. Another was for the co-author of the book about the 1913 Liberty Head Nickel, of which only five are known to exist. About six prints were made for various people who helped to authenticate the Walton specimen.

Q: What does the future hold for "Big Money," and where it can be seen?

A: I have a whole folder full of design ideas (laughs). It's just a matter of getting to them. I am working now to get more gallery showings and to pursue commissions from collectors who would like to see their favorite coins or bills as a work of art to hang on the wall for every day enjoyment. Most of the series can be seen on my



Big Money series #13 © Shellee Graham

Toned Morgan Dollar

20" x 20" print on canvas

from a Guy Clark song about the passing of a penny from place to place over a period of years. I have a 1907 "Woodchopper" note that is surrounded by stacks of firewood. There is a canvas called "I Like Ike" and one featuring Harry Truman called "The Buck Stops Here." Others feature famous designers and their masterpieces, such as James Earle Fraser and Saint Gaudens. Each piece includes a separate text panel describing its significance and the story behind its creation.

Q: Is the entire gallery "inspired," or have you done commission work?

website, www.shelleegraham.com/bigmoney. Each piece is a signed and numbered limited edition of seventy-five canvas prints and includes a Certificate of Authenticity.

Q: In closing, you mentioned the artful aspects of the subjects as a primary inspiration. Is there anything else?

A: The art is inspiration enough, but that is one side of the coin, so to speak. I also find it gratifying to help shine a light on the virtually unnoticed works of art that we all carry in our pockets and handle daily but rarely give a thought to.

Our Visit to the Bellarmine Museum of Art

By David Heinrich

W

hile on a recent trip to New England we discovered a little art museum on the campus of a Jesuit University.

"The Bellarmine Museum is located on the renovated lower level of Bellarmine Hall which was designed in 1920 in the English manorial style. The forty-four room mansion was built by Walter B. Lashar, owner of the American Chain and Cable Company. The Jesuits purchased Bellarmine Hall from the town of Fairfield in 1942 to

serve as one of the foundational building for Fairfield University."

We arrived at the museum a few days before the students were to return after summer break. What a lucky happen-

stance for us! Although the museum wasn't technically open, the door wasn't locked and we went inside, found a staff member who allowed us to guide ourselves through the exhibits. How nice, for the next hour or so we had the place to ourselves!

Among the many exhibits we found one that included a numismatic item. The

English Groat pictured at left was in a display between two fifteenth century English badges. You never know when or where you might stumble across a connection to your hobby.

By the way, the Groat was photographed with a Samsung Galaxy S4 smartphone, hand held and through the

glass of the display case. The image was minimally processed in Adobe Photoshop, level and contrast adjustments and converted to a black and white image. It was the best of a half dozen shots.



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WHAT'S YOUR PASSION?



Sarah Miller, Director of Numismatics in our New York office, began collecting at age 11 (dragging her father to coin shows). By 14, she was working at coin shows, ultimately parlaying her interests into a Finance & Economics degree. Numismatics took her from Greater Chicago to the Big Apple.

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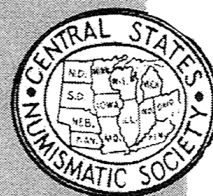
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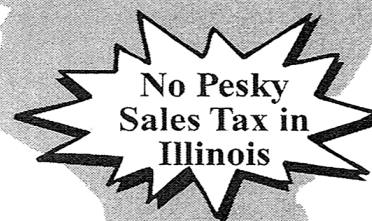
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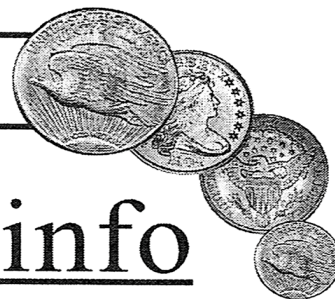
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Minutes From the WIN Meeting at ANA Chicago

By Cindy Wibker

W

omen In Numismatics
(WIN) General Meeting,

August 8, 2014 in Chicago, IL.

Charmy also told everyone to look in Winning Ways for revised requirements to apply for the WIN scholarship to the ANA summer conference. She also said she would attend the Girl Scout patch workshop tomorrow and tell them about WIN.

The two WIN mixers held to date have been successful. The next WIN meeting will be held at the FUN convention in January in Orlando.

tion to guest speaker Kathy Freeland. Kathy's topic was American Red Cross (ARC) collectibles, and the publication of her recent book on the topic. She said she has been attending MPC (Military Payment Certificate) Fest for about 10 years, and she started writing her book, "American Red Cross in World War II Collector's Guide" about two years ago. Kathy then showed slides of six different types of collectibles: (1) chits, including some from Europe and

Australia, (2) checks, assumed to be used by clubs that needed supplies, including two shown from the



WIN President Charmy Harker called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. She announced that the 50/25/25 drawing will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday at the FUN table. The final accounting hasn't been done, but there is at least a total of \$1,000.00 to be split. Two winners will receive 25% each, and WIN will receive 50% for the ANA Summer Seminar scholarship fund.

Charmy also told the attendees about a new book project by Ron Guth, "100 Greatest Women on Coins." WIN will work with Ron on this project.

Everyone introduced themselves and there were 24 people at the meeting.

Fred Schwan gave a wonderful introduc-

Calcutta ARC, written from Account 149 of the Calcutta Agency of the Bank of China, (3) short snorters, which are notes of money that the guys in the war signed, along with a few ARC girls, (4) materials used to fund the ARC, such as the handbook for salesmen who went door-to-door and samples of the shares the individuals could buy, (5) postcards, including two types - clubmobiles and service club scenes, and (6) Prisoner of

War Relief food packages that held cigarettes, lunch meat, raisins, cheese, chocolate, orange concentrate, liver track and field events.

Kathy had samples out on a table for



Fred Schwan, Kathy Freeland, Charmy Harker

paste, biscuits and corned beef. Kathy said funds for the ARC could also be raised via benefit baseball games and

everyone to see. She was presented with a certificate of thanks for her presentation, which was entertaining and very well received.

Cindy Wibker gave a brief history of the Gloria Peters Literary Award, stating that Gloria was WIN's original editor of *Winning Ways* and a super supporter of WIN. The award has not been presented in the last two years, but the literary awards committee (Cindy, Kathy and Lisa Loos) selected winners for both 2012 and 2013. Prue Fitts was present and accepted her award for 2012 for her article, "Let's Hear It For the Ladies." The 2013 winner was not present, and her award will be mailed to her. Kathy Skelton was the recipient for her article, "Musicians On Coins: The House That Bach Built." Prue and Kathy each receive an engraved plaque with the WIN logo and a check in the amount of \$50.00.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Wibker

WIN Secretary

Charmy Harker's Exhibit "Penny Potpourri" takes top honors at the 2014 ANA Show.

WIN Press Release

Congratulations to WIN President Charmy Harker who won People's Choice and 2nd Runner Up to Best in Show for her Penny Potpourri exhibit at the 2014 Chicago ANA show!



Charmy's Big Adventure at the 2014 ANA Summer Seminar

By Charmy Harker

F

irst off, let me just say that I love the ANA Summer Seminar and am grateful to have had the opportunity to attend three times! This third time was the award I received for winning the Best in Show award, sponsored by Heritage Auctions, for my Penny Potpourri exhibit at the FUN show. And I couldn't wait to sign up to attend. The only hard part was deciding which class to take since there were several subjects in which I would like to improve my skills.

I decided to see if Rick Snow would let me

take his class on the "Secrets of Flying Eagle and Indian Cents" because, even though I am a dealer who specializes in all things cents, I am a firm believer in "the more you know, the more you realize what you don't know." So I knew this class would be of great benefit to me. See, I had wanted to take Rick's class the first time I attended the Summer Seminar a few years ago, but because Rick and I are "fierce" but friendly competitors, Rick teasingly said he didn't want me to learn his "secrets." But this time, I countered with, "After all these years, don't you think I know all your secrets by now!" I guess that must have convinced him since he finally agreed to let me take his class!

Friday evening, we headed over to the popular campus gathering spot, "Lunar

Lounge." It's basically an open patio area with tables and chairs between the dorm buildings and has a beautiful view of Pike's Peak. Many Summer Seminar attendees like to meet there at the day's end, bringing with them their favorite beverages and snacks, sometimes guitars and banjos, or even poker chips and cards. It's probably one of the highlights for many Summer Seminar participants because it offers the opportunity to chat with and get to know other attendees, instructors, and even staff members each night after a busy day of classes and lessons. More importantly, many long-lasting friendships are formed at the Lunar Lounge. The Diggers boys, Tim and George, were kind enough to stop by Lunar Lounge for a short visit. Here are Bruce, George, me, Tim, and Mike Ellis (ANA Governor and friend of the Diggers



Left: Bruce Benoit
Center: The author with George and Tim "The Digger boys"
Right ANA Governor Mike Ellis

boys).

On Saturday I had registration and orientation, and I also attended the local coin show and the book sale at the ANA. I also went to the ANA museum to take a look at their new exhibits. Along with the famous Harry W. Bass collection, the ANA's new "Treasures of the Deep" exhibit is amazing and very beautiful, with great informational boards, artwork and decorations, as well as mood music and lighting. Each exhibit shows the various treasures gathered from shipwrecks, including video of the actual Odyssey Marine Exploration retrieving items from the Central America shipwreck on the bottom of the ocean. I really enjoyed this exhibit and recommend it to anyone who has the opportunity to visit the ANA headquarters.

Classes began on Sunday, and our class started out by guessing the grade of several certified Indian cents that Rick passed around with a post-it note placed over the grades. We wrote down our guesses on a notepad, and then Rick showed each coin up on a large screen so we could discuss our guesses before revealing the actual grade. It was very enlightening and interesting listening to everyone's opinions as to why they agreed or disagreed with the stated grade.

Later that evening, I gave a "bull" session presentation on "Penny Exonumia" which included photos and a discussion on things that were made out of or using pennies. I have been collecting penny exonumia for



about 15 years and displayed several pieces from my collection in two cases at the back of the room where I let people carefully examine some of the pieces up close.

During the second day of Rick's class, we talked about die design changes, popular varieties, Flying Eagle and Indian cent patterns, die anomalies such as gauges and polishing lines, and planchet anomalies such as laminations and woodgrain toning. I noticed how closely everyone paid attention in class and some asked very good questions. This was truly an absorbing and fascinating class for any Flying Eagle/Indian cent enthusiast, and it was apparent that everyone in the class thought so too.

In class on Tuesday we started out discussing counterfeits. Rick showed several different types of counterfeit cents, including one Indian cent that was so good it had even made it into a PCGS holder! It is seriously scary how well some counterfeits are made, especially those created by a very crafty counterfeiter known as "the Bay Area Counterfeiter." He (or she) created high quality counterfeit coins that are known to have come out of the San Francisco area during the 1960's-1970's. Rick showed us examples and told us how to tell the difference between coins with altered dates, altered mint marks, electro spark erosion (which had pitting, polished fields, rough devices), and direct transfer counterfeits (forcing the coin into a blank die). Rick also displayed a few *different* date counterfeit coins that were made from the same counterfeit dies which could be detected by locating the exact same repeating marks on different coins. The 1877 Indian cent is one of the most commonly counterfeited cents, however,

all regular issue 1877 Indian cents have a shallow "N" in ONE on the reverse. Many of the counterfeiters who create fake 1877's use the more common bold "N" reverse die design, thus making it easy to detect a counterfeit 1877. Discussing these counterfeit coins was probably the most fascinating part of the entire class for me since it is the area of numismatics that I find the most daunting.



Counterfeit 1877
(photo courtesy of PCGS website)

After class and dinner, it was off to the YN auction which was the highlight of the whole week! The YN's worked tirelessly to obtain donations of items for the auction, describe and list them in the catalog, then prepare and print the catalog. There was also competition between the first and second Summer Seminar sessions' auction to try and "beat" the total earned at each auction. I understand the prior session brought over \$12,000. Well, the second session auction more than doubled that figure, with a total of over \$30,000!

For those of you who have been to a Summer Seminar YN auction, you know that the only rule for the auction is that there are no rules, so pretty much anything goes! Some of the antics I have seen include others using unattended bidder numbers to raise bids, crazy bid amounts for small value items, "accidental" bids from someone scratching their nose, etc. It's all in good fun and, of course, it all goes to a

very good cause. To give you an example of some of the pranks, at my first YN auction, I didn't know about the "no rules" clause and left my bidder card on my chair while I walked around to take photos. Pretty soon, thanks to whatever person I was sitting next to who slyly used my bidder paddle, I was the proud owner of one of Tiny's straw hats for \$35! Then shortly after that, I was bidding on a Jacques Wiener medal I had my eye on, and before I knew it, my good buddy Todd Pollock was bidding against me – he didn't even collect medals! But as I found out a little too late, he wasn't even using his own bidder number, he had "counterfeited" my bidder plate and was bidding against me with my own bidder number!!! Such shenanigans are common in the YN auction, so newbies beware!

It was now Wednesday, which was graduation day and the awards banquet. In class, Rick showed us some of the more popular and interesting Indian cent varieties. He had recently written an article that included the top 100 Indian cent varieties so we saw and discussed several of them. The first one he happened to show on the screen was an 1862 Indian cent I discovered a few years ago with a reverse die gauge.

Rick also displayed more guess-the-grade coins on the screen so we could see if we had improved our grading skills, which I am happy to say we all had. This purple magenta toned 1877 was one of the more beautiful coins we graded off the screen. When he passed it around for us to grade in hand, we all drooled over it and felt it was accurately graded.

One of my fellow students, Dave, who was

also an EAC collector, brought several aluminum foil pressings of large cents. They were made by placing foil around the coin, then using a pressing seal like a notary seal (with blank rubber inserts) to tightly press the foil against the coin. Then the coin was carefully slipped out and the foil placed in a plastic 2 x 2 to preserve the image. These pressings were so well done



that you could even identify the variety of the coin just by examining the foil pressing. I was very fascinated by these pressings, and very pleased when Dave graciously gave one of them to me.

When our class finally came to an end, Rick gave each of us our "graduation" certificates – whahooo, I passed! Then we all posed for a class photo.

At the awards banquet, the ANA gave out

various awards to the YNs and Certificates of Appreciation to all the instructors for volunteering their time to help support the Summer Seminar program. While the ANA pays for their travel expenses, all the instructors take time away from their families, jobs, and businesses to teach the various classes at Summer Seminar. It's a huge time commitment, but these folks show a true dedication to education and enhancing the field of numismatics.

After the banquet, I went over to Gaylord Hall to watch this really great short-form comedy improv group called "Stick Horses in Pants" perform. They get their humor from everyday situations, and asked the audience to help come up with certain phrases or things, then they would expand on or do a routine around those words or phrases – they were hilarious! After the program, I headed over to Lunar Lounge for one last time to say good-bye to my old and new friends. I only stayed an hour or so because I was exhausted and had to get up at 6am to catch the 7am bus to the airport.

So that's about it. I hope you enjoyed my week-long journey through the world of the ANA Summer Seminar. It was great seeing old friends and making new ones, and I look forward to going back again next year!



Class Picture

Exonumia challenge: Get a free medal, write an article

By Ray Lockwood

Token and medal specialist Bob Fritsch and Central States Education Director Ray Lockwood are issuing an exonumia challenge to members.

The challenge, patterned after a similar program Fritsch pioneered with the California Exonumist Society promises to be fun and perhaps profitable.

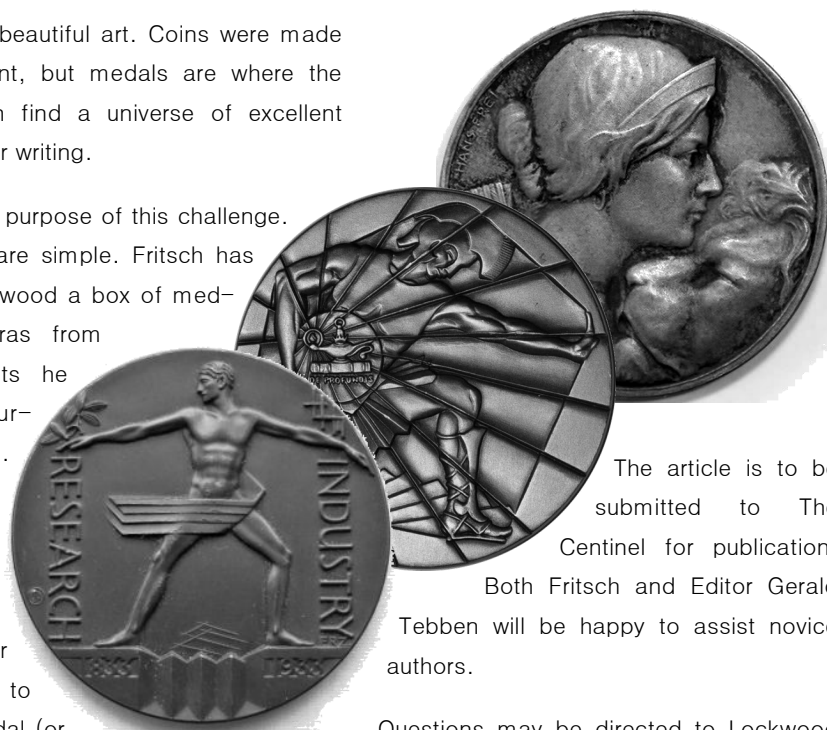
Here's how the CES described the challenge:

Every medal has a story to tell. By their very nature, medals are created to mark

or be just beautiful art. Coins were made to be spent, but medals are where the author can find a universe of excellent subjects for writing.

That is the purpose of this challenge.

The rules are simple. Fritsch has given Lockwood a box of medals – extras from auction lots he has purchased. Contact Lockwood to look through the box or ask him to pick a medal (or grouping of items like telephone tokens) for you. In return, write an article of about one page about the medal.



The article is to be submitted to The Centinel for publication.

Both Fritsch and Editor Gerald Tebben will be happy to assist novice authors.

Questions may be directed to Lockwood at 2075 E. Bocock Rd., Marion, IN 46952; sunrayofinarion@aol.com or 765-664-6520.

WIN Social Mixer



WIN Press Release

Women In Numismatics will be holding a social mixer from 6:45 pm to 9:00 pm on Thursday, January 9, 2015 at Rocks Lounge located in the Hyatt Regency during the Florida United numismatists Convention in January,

The Hyatt Regency Hotel (the FUN host hotel) is located at 9801 International Drive on Orlando Florida.



WOMEN *In* NUMISMATICS



Founded in 1991, WIN is the premiere organization for women in the field of numismatics.

As a national non-profit corporation, our chartered goals are to encourage fellowship and learning through networking and social events, as well as offering educational seminars, scholarship programs, social events, and our informative literary publication, *Winning Ways*.

New President Charmy Harker is leading the 2014 board in a revitalization of WIN, focusing on expanding membership and providing social media platforms for members to connect, discuss, and promote their numismatic interests and ideas nation-wide.

Collector or dealer, novice or expert, we invite you to join us and be part of a vital organization that is beneficial to all:
Women In Numismatics.

WomenInNumismatics.com

Yes! I would like to become a member of
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Please select type of one-year membership:

☐ Regular, \$25 ☐ Junior, \$5 ☐ Associate, \$10

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Referred by: _____

Please mail application and dues to:

Women In Numismatics
Cindy Wibker, Secretary
PO Box 471147
Lake Monroe, FL 32747-1147

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AT THE FUN SHOW

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10TH

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WOMEN IN NUMISMATICS

WIN Scholarship Award

If you would like to apply for WIN's scholarship award to the ANA summer conference, now is the time! Deadline for applications is December 15th.

You must be a WIN member for at least one year before applying, and must be an active member by doing one of the following:

- Writing articles for Winning Ways
- Serving on the board of directors
- Presenting a program at a WIN meeting
- Selling 50/50 tickets at a major show
- Signing up at least 4 new members within the past couple of years.

If you would like to apply you need to:

- Write a full page (200–250 word) essay including why you want to attend the conference, and your numismatic background.
- Send your dues for the scholarship year, if not already paid. (All dues must be received by December 15th.)
- Agree to sign a disclaimer that you will not hold WIN responsible for loss or injury while attending or traveling to or from the conference.
- Agree to provide Winning Ways a report on your experience at the summer seminar (reasonable length suggested) if you receive a scholarship from WIN.

- Send your application to; Dave Heinrich, WIN Editor Or email to: winningwayseditor@gmail.com
P.O. Box 446
Miamitown, OH 45041

(Note: You are not eligible for this scholarship if you have won it in the past 5 years.)

WIN pays tuition for present ANA member, along with dormitory room and board for a double occupancy room.

The winning name will be drawn at the WIN meeting in conjunction with the January FUN show. You do not need to be present to win.

We look forward to receiving your application soon!!

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Women in Numismatics will be holding a social mixer at the Rocks Lounge at the Hyatt Regency Hotel (the FUN host hotel) located at 9801 International Drive on Thursday, January 9, 2015 at 6:45 p.m



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